Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Monday 18 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Tuesday 19 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Sunday 17 Jan 2021 at 08:54

Confidence: High confidence for an unsettled week ahead and low confidence on where the frontal rainband will be located resulting in a lot of uncertainty for the Lake District forecast, however indicators are for a very wet spell from late Monday to Thursday.

Headline for Monday 18 Jan 2021: A dull, damp day on the fells with heavier rain later.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 18 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
FOG	FOG						
Fog	Fog	Dull	Sleet showers	Drizzle	Dull	Drizzle	Heavy Rain
Precipitation probability							
10%	10%	10%	30%	50%	50%	50%	60%

Forecast for Monday 18 Jan 2021

Weather: Cloudy overnight with outbreaks of sleet and snow this will continue during the morning. Quite a dull day with lots of low cloud around and poor visibility at times. Perhaps drier for a time in the afternoon with a few brighter spells especially in the east but low cloud filling in again later as a band of rain and sleet moves east in the evening. Freezing level rises above the summits in the evening so it will mainly fall as rain later on.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% chance in the afternoon as cloud lifts and breaks temporarily otherwise extensive low cloud associated with outbreaks of drizzle, sleet and snow.

Visibility: Mostly very poor with extensive low cloud with bases around 4-500m in the morning. Visibility improving for a time in the afternoon but becoming poor in the evening as heavy rain moves across the area. Cloud bases slightly higher in the east and a few sunny intervals are possible in the east in the afternoon.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Monday 18 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	32/41 W	35/44 W	35/44 W	32/41 W	30/39 W	28/37 SW	26/32 SW	22/27 SW	19/23 SW
600	27/36 W	29/39 W	28/38 W	26/36 W	25/35 W	23/32 SW	20/27 SW	16/21 SW	12/16 SW
300	11/28 W	12/30 W	12/30 W	11/28 W	12/28 W	10/25 SW	7/19 SW	5/14 SW	3/11 SW
Valley	11/27 W	12/28 W	11/28 W	11/26 W	13/27 SW	11/24 SW	8/19 SW	6/15 SW	4/11 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-0/-8	-0/-9	-1/-9	-1/-9	-0/-8	-0/-8	0/-7	1/-5	1/-5
600	2/-5	2/-6	1/-6	1/-6	2/-5	2/-5	2/-4	3/-2	3/-1
300	4/0	4/-0	4/-0	4/-0	4/0	4/1	4/2	4/3	4/3
Valley	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/3	6/3	6/4	6/4
Freezing Level*	900m	800m	800m	800m	800m	800m	1000m	1300m	1300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Some gale force gusts around the summits in the morning but winds easing, strong winds will give a significant wind chill effect and freezing level will lift towards summits with some thawing of lower snowpack in the evening.

Forecast for Tuesday 19 Jan 2021

Weather: A wet and cloudy day in store as persistent rain is expected throughout the day, this may fall as snow on the highest tops but will generally be rain or sleet at all levels. There may be a few drier spells on peaks in the north of the Lake District depending on the exact location of the rain band however there is uncertainty around this. Rain may turn to sleet or snow later in the afternoon.

Maximum wind: Mainly westerly 10mph with gusts 15-20mph, winds may be light and variable in directions on northern fells.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 20% or less, any clearance is more likely around northern fells.

Visibility: Generally poor or very poor with extensive low cloud from 2-300m upwards. Perhaps the bases will be 4-500m in the north. Difficult navigation is likely in persistent rain.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around 5 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 2 Celsius falling to minus 1 Celsius later.
Freezing level: 1200m falling to 700m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Date: Sunday 17 January

Location: Helvellyn summit at 10:46
Full report:

A fresh dusting of snow overnight added to the significant quantities that survived yesterday's thaw, and above 700m, snow and large areas of ice are still present over almost all of the ground up to and including the summit.

Small areas of snow exist at lower levels, however, they are fairly easy to avoid. Much of the snow encountered today was well consolidated and frozen, meaning that a potential slip in the wrong place (if not stopped) would quickly pick up speed and could result in a long and damaging fall.

Strong winds over the last couple of days mean that snow distribution and depth is quite varied. Any high, exposed ground has a fairly thin cover, whereas slopes in the lee of the preceding winds (north through east-facing) have the largest accumulations.

Fragile cornices are present around north and east-facing corrie rims and these should be avoided.

Swirral and Striding edge are both in full winter condition and should only be attempted by those with sufficient winter mountaineering experience - An ice axe and crampons are essential for these and other similar steep and exposed routes in the area.

Issued at: 0854 on Sun 17 Jan 2021

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